



THE AMERICAN LEGION
Department of Maryland
Legislative Commission

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**STATEMENT IN SUPPORT FOR HOUSE BILL 371
INCOME TAX – SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION – MILITARY INCOME
THE DEFENSE WORKFORCE OPPORTUNITY ACT**

Madame Chair Kaiser and distinguished members of the House Ways and Means Committee,

The American Legion is an ardent supporter for an equitable tax reduction for those who have served in uniform their nation as well as those who put their lives on the line daily for our communities and the State of Maryland.

We earnestly believe House Bill 371 is a reasonable and just measure to honor those who have served us honorably in their respective careers. This bill will allow them to live out the remainder of their lives in a more secure fashion and, hopefully, stem the exodus from our State to other states which have a more favorable tax legislation to honor their services.

This is especially true of those who hold high level security clearances and would be valuable assets to the burgeoning defense contract industry here which is on a growth parity to other such states as California and Texas. Presently, many of those already employed in this field are commuting from communities in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and West Virginia; states already having beneficial tax regulations favoring the military retiree.

In conclusion, The American Legion while respecting other legislative initiatives on this subject feels HB 371 is a realistic alternative particularly in a period when there are great needs confronting the Legislature in this session and respectfully request a favorable report on HB 371, Thank you, and

Respectfully, yours

Patrick Guibao

Patrick J. Guibao
Chairman
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